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The Villa Capital

of

The Province of Texas

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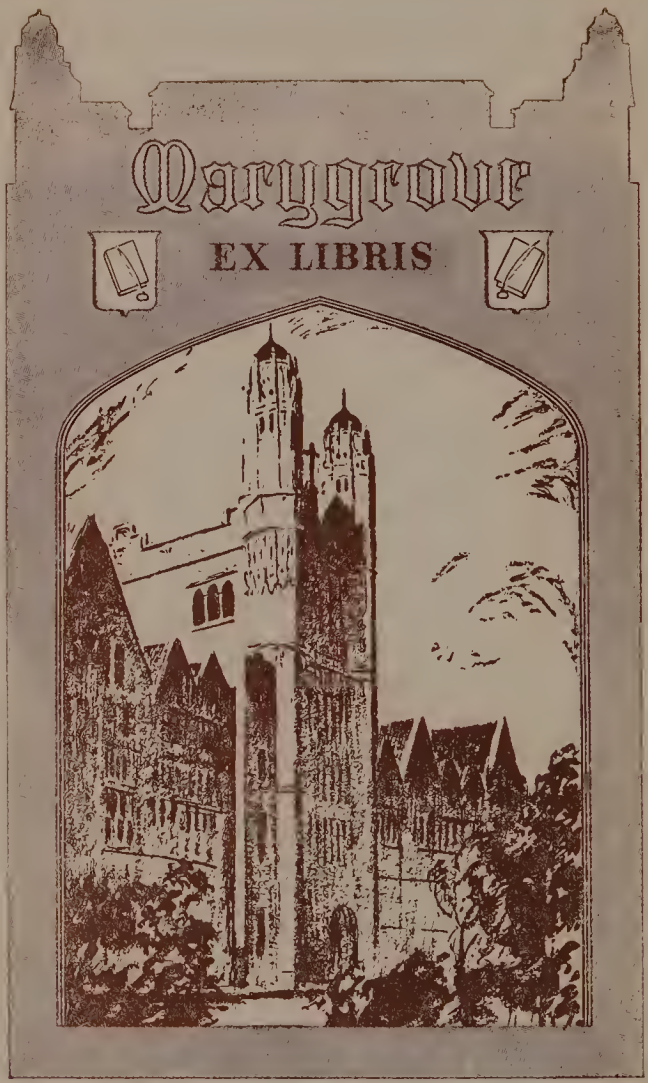
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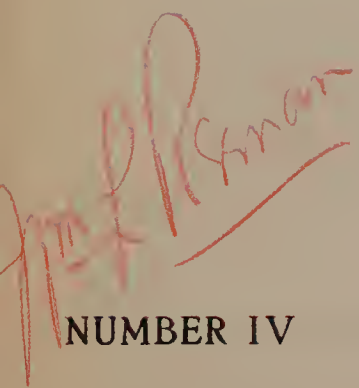

NUMBER IV

E.D.

SAN ANTONIO SERIES

SAN FERNANDO

The *Villa Capital* of the province of Texas, with illustrations; and with an account of the present SAN FERNANDO CATHEDRAL and other landmarks, as well as of the settlers themselves.

BY

FREDERICK C. CHABOT

NUMBER IV.

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MDCCCXXX

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FREDERICK C. CHABOT
San Antonio, Texas

Printed in the
United States of America
1930

Respectfully Dedicated to

The Most Reverend

ARCHBISHOP

A. J. DROSSAERTS

Perfil

De esta manera y con esta fachada quedarà la poblacion que se manifiesta en el plano que esta escripto abajo, cuyas letras y numeros corresponden segun el lugar donde estan, Colocados. Respondiendose el vno, àl otro

Fabricado.

3 '47

SETTLEMENT

RAMON, after his Expedition of 1716, was not long in convincing the authorities of New Spain that to make permanent the missions established among the Texas Indians, it would be necessary not only to extend the sphere of occupation, but to make a greater show of strength. The early occupation of Espiritu Santo Bay was encouraged. La Bahia was recognized as a very advantageous base of supplies coming by water from Veracruz. San Antonio, on the other hand, the halfway haven between La Bahia and the Province of the Texas, would also serve as a useful point of observation for the activities of the French. So Father Olivares' mission on the San Antonio, as well as a well fortified presidio to be maintained at the site, were approved by a Junta of War on December 2, 1716.

Don Martin de Alarcon was appointed governor, and instructed to select a capital for the province, where there should be erected strong houses of stone for the soldiers' quarters, and to establish a *villa* or city on the banks of the San Antonio river, in the proximity of the mission, which in accordance with the Laws of the Indies, was to consist of not less

than thirty Spanish civilian inhabitants to distinguish it from a mere Indian *pueblo.* In consequence *San Antonio de los Llanos* was founded during the early part of 1718, which comprised the old *San Antonio de Padua* mission, now called *San Antonio de Valero,* the presidio of *San Antonio de Bexar* and the *Villa de Bejar.* This was the first attempt at founding a municipality. Alarcon was unable to bring the necessary thirty inhabitants "owing to the fact that the Rio del Norte (Rio Grande) had risen and thus prevented all of the expedition from crossing, particularly the women." The *Villa de Bejar* was populated with only ten families, and it is not likely that this aggregation of early settlers had any municipal government of their own; they were apparently not recognized as a legal *villa* or city.

The chivalrous activities of the Marquis of Aguayo should now be recalled. His expedition (1719-1722), which drove the French from Texas, and the last of its kind west of the Rio Grande, by increasing the military strength of the province, and by the settlement of families, secured to Spain her hold on Texas. The Marquis repeatedly emphasized the importance of Spanish families and their domestic establishments for the maintenance of the province. He recommended to the King of Spain, a curtailment of military expenditures, and "as indispensable, populating the province of Texas with two hundred Spanish families from Galicia, the Canary Islands or Havana, as such settlers would be more given to work than the natives of Texas, as well as with an additional two hundred settlers from Gran Tlaxcala, who could be brought by way of Veracruz to La Bahia at little cost and who had proved themselves very satisfactory wherever they had settled, and as they were religious they would set an excellent example for the natives."

These recommendations were duly acted upon. Pedro de Rivera was instructed to inspect the frontier presidios and as a result of his *revista,* and subsequent reports, a series of military reforms were inaugurated, mainly in the direction of retrenchment.

While the vagabond Indians of west and central Texas where submissive and cowardly, the Nat-

chez and their kindred tribes, on the contrary, enlisted the Apaches and the Commanches (1729) in an attempt to annihilate both the French and Spanish "intruders." Again, St. Denis saved the situation, and the Spaniards as well. The missionary fathers, as was to be expected, became alarmed, left entirely exposed as they were at their weakest, to such a formidable league; their vehement protests against military retrenchment soon precipitated a political conflict which terminated in a change of governors.

In Spain the king had decided that the four hundred families recommened by Aguayo "should come as volunteers from the Canary Islands, owing to the facilities of transportation from that point." Royal Cedulas were issued to help them on their way. The Canary Islands had long been a reliable source of colonial supplies. As early as 1536 Canary Islanders had been settled on the La Plata, at the founding of San Gabriel. The first families of Montevideo too, had been augmented by twenty families from the Canary Islands. Relations between the Islands and Florida were authorized in 1580, and during the 17th century contracts were entered into for settling Florida with Canary Islanders and Campeche Indians. One hundred Canary Island families actually landed in Santo Domingo.

A decree issued in 1729, regulating the transportation of the proposed four hundred families, provided that not less than ten families should sail in any one vessel to Havana and then to Veracruz, from where they were to proceed through Mexico to the Province of Texas. It was only with great difficulty that the minimum requirements were complied with; even then a group of single men had to be considered as a family to complete the ten.

The original party of fifty-two persons were conducted from Veracruz to Quautitlan where the first list was made, September 9, 1730. "An allowance for provisions of four reales per diem per family began on September 6th. In Saltillo a new list and inventory was certified to, January 31, 1731, and Colonel Aguirre provided them an escort of ten soldiers to the Presidio del Norte (Rio Grande).

From there they were escorted anew to San Antonio, where they arrived at eleven o'clock, March 9th, 1731."

In San Antonio the Governor made a new and final list "in order to confer upon them as first settlers, and upon their descendants, the title of *Hijos Dalgos* or *Hidalgos,* the regular honor bestowed upon first settlers of a new city in the colonies." (Laws of the Indies, Law VI, Title vi, Book iv.)

At this time too, there were changes in the missionary field. The attempt to civilize the Indians of the Hasinai settlements into *pueblos,* built in close order, was recognized as a dismal failure. The Indians determined to live in *ranchos* (separte houses) well apart from each other, each household seeking a place suitable for its crops and having a supply of water. It was also soon learned that "the less and smaller tribes of the San Antonio river nearer Mexico and farther removed for the contrary influence of the French, afforded a better field for missionary labors." So in conformity with the Spanish Government's decision to concentrate forces at San Antonio, the missions in east Texas were abandoned (1729.) The original missions, *San Francisco de los Tejas, Concepcion* and *San Jose de los Nazones,* were reestablished on the San Antonio river (March 5, 1731) when they were respectively renamed *San Francisco de la Espada, La Purissima Concepcion* and *San Juan Capistrano.*

"The colonists continued to receive for one year after their arrival, the four reales per diem, with provisions at the same price as furnished the soldiers." Each family was given a yoke of oxen and the necessary implements for cultivating the soil. They were furnished seed, the planting of which was supervised at the proper seasons. They were also alloted metates for grinding corn.

A site near the San Pedro Springs (near the old ford according to tradition) was chosen for the colonists. Here they first pitched their tents on San Antonio ground. But no sooner had the new arrivals sought repose in their temporary encampment, than the Apaches and their allies swooped down upon the settlements, stealing the cattle and committing many atrocious crimes. It was only after

a formal expedition had defeated and chastised the perfidious enemy that the final settlement of the colonists was continued.

Their municipality it was decided, should be "to the east of the Presidio, nearer the bend in the river, as protection from the savages." The contour reproduced in this booklet shows the proposed *Villa,* as planned by the appropriate authorities (1730), previous to the arrival of the Island colonists at San Antonio. The instructions accompanying the map were wise indeed, and reflected good judgement and taste. Complying with such details, however, was quite another matter.

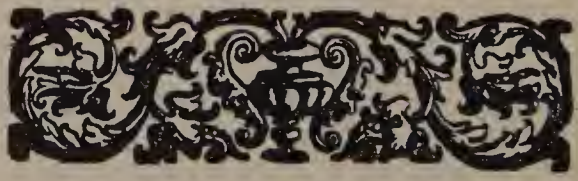
To begin with, it was the season for ploughing, and planting of corn; so the families were extended temporary comfort in the houses of the soldiers and inhabitants of the Presidio. By March 15th 1731 lands between the river and creek north and south of the Presidio, had been quickly allotted for immediate sowing. By the 30th of June, "there were two fanegas of corn sown; some beans, barley, cotton, chiles, peppers, melons, water-melons, and squash. Also many vegetables. Despite the distance from Saltillo, slips which had been brought had taken root and were showing fruit."

"By July 2nd, the municipality had been laid off. On the northwest of the Plaza two squares were pointed out, one for the Deputation or Customs and the other for a dwelling for one of the principal families. On the other and corresponding side, southeast, another two squares were pointed out for the site of other important families."

"As this was the first political settlement of Texas, it was given the title of city, and it was to be the capital of the province, the privilege however, of confirming this decree, and giving the illustrious municipality a coat of arms, should that be his royal pleasure, was reserved by the viceroy to His Majesty." The *Villa* was given the name of *"San Fernando,"* in honor of Don Fernando, Prince of the Asturias, who later became King of Spain, the viceroy, Juan de Acuña, Marquis of Casa Fuerte, having refused to give his own name to the municipality, preferring to call it San Fernando in honor of His Serene Highness.

The first formal census of San Antonio, dated December 31, 1788, (see the *Early Texas Album*), refers to the municipality as the "Villa of San Fernando, Capital of the Province of Texas." An official document regarding military activities, dated in 1788, refers to the entire group of settlements on the San Antonio River, including the mission and its pueblo, the presidio and the villa, as *"San Antonio de Bexar."* Then, the Convocatoria of 1823, calling for a Congressional Election in Mexico, provided for the subdivision of Texas into five sections, with *"San Antonio de Bexar"* as the capital of the entire province (of Texas).

The Constitution of 1836, which reorganized the old precincts or municipalities into counties, made *San Antonio de Bexar,* or simply *"Bexar"* the county seat of Bexar County (created March 17, 1836); and this name for our city was confirmed by the town charter granted by the Republic of Texas, June 5, 1837, at which time John W. Smith was elected mayor. By an act of December 14, 1837, the citizens of *Bexar,* or the settlements of the old San Antonio de Valero, in the county of Bexar, were declared a body politic and corporate, with the name and title of "the City of San Antonio." Subsequent charters for the City of San Antonio were approved in 1842, 1852, 1856, 1870 and 1903.



LANDMARKS

THE zealous work of the missionaries in conjunction with the Spaniards' method of extending their jurisdiction by the use of the mission and presidio has already been described. A new class of working clergy was now to enter the field. The curate or parish priest was to assume his important duties in the Spanish settlement of San Fernando.

One of the first precautions of the Marquis of Casa Fuerte, when issuing the decree for the founding of the villa capital of San Fernando, was an order that the colonists attend mass in the chapel of the Presidio of San Antonio, until they should have erected their own parish church, for which an appropriation from the Royal Treasury was made.

The first foundation stone for the holy temple was not laid until three years after the arrival of the colonists, May 13, 1734. As the Royal appropriation had not been received, there were no resources for the construction of the church edifice, so "donations were asked of all pious souls of both San Fernando and the Presidio." By February 25, 1738, the trustees, Vicente Alvarez Travieso and Francisco Jose de Arocha were able to report to the Town Council and the Justice, that an estimated

total of 642.25 pesos had been received. Governor Orobio y Bazterra headed the list with a two hundred peso contribution; the Curate, Don Recio de Leon followed with 25 pesos; then Captain Jose de Urrutia with 100. Along with the Canary Island families, the Collector of Revenues, Antonio Rodriguez Mederos, Antonio Ximenes and Francisco Decal y Musquiz, inhabitants of the villa, made contributions; while Juan Flores, Antonio Martin Saucedo, Toribio de Urrutia, Jose Antonio Flores, Ignacio Urrutia, Manuel and Nicolas de Carvajal, and Xavier Peres, all of the Presidio, were generous in their donations. Six subsequent donations increased the grand total to 666.25 pesos. "This sum however, proved insufficient for the purchase of the necessary materials for the project; after many requests and special visits to the Mexican Court, the Viceroy finally contributed the 5,000 pesos from the Royal Treasury."

The parish church was erected under the invocation of the Virgin of the Candelaria and Our Lady of Guadalupe for whom the inhabitants had a particular reverence, and in accordance with the plans of the viceroy. The location of the legal center of the Villa, as shown on the Map of 1730, was at the original site of the property reserved for the church and missionaries at the founding of the Presidio, on the east side of Military Plaza, "the principal door of the church opening to the east and pointing on the Plaza of this Villa, and its rear door, to the west and fronting on the Plaza of the Presidio."

In 1746 the citizens of San Fernando and all the residents of the jurisdiction were ordered to assist in the work of finishing the church. Two years later (1748) an additionl 12,000 pesos were received from the viceroy. "It was not until November 6, 1749, however, that the blessing of our church of San Fernando, as well as that of the cemetery took place. It was named in honor of Saint Ferdinand," ancestor of Don Fernando, for whom the Villa had been named.

In 1828 San Fernando Church was seriously damaged by fire; it was not until 1841 that the entire building was completely repaired. The founda-

tion stone of the present edifice was laid September 27, 1868. Five years later the original main dome fell in, and for a short time the church was in disuse. It was reopened October 6, 1873.

San Antonio was made a diocese, September 3, 1874, and Anthony Dominic Pelicer was installed as first bishop Christmas Eve, of this year (1874).

The original cemetery, immediately surrounding the church, as can be observed in the head piece of this booklet, was removed to the site of present Milam Square and Santa Rosa Hospital. The first burial in the old *Campo Santo* was of the body of Don Angel Navarro, November 1, 1808. The tomb of the widow of Governor Antonio Cordero is in the church itself.

FOR a period of eleven years it was necessary to deposit the official documents of the Villa at the home of the Captain of the Presidio, while the meetings of the *Cabildo* or Town Council were held in private residences, owing to the absence of any municipal headquarters or Council Hall. It was not until 1742 that the inhabitants of San Fernando came to the building of the *Casas Reales*. A contract entered into with Antonio Rodriguez y Medero for the hauling of the necessary stone was not fulfilled; so a second similar contract was arranged with Manuel de Carvajal, which began the construction of the much needed Council Hall. Four years later (1749) the municipality was obliged to borrow funds for the roofing and white-washing of the structure.

By 1779, thirty years later, the *Casas Reales* were "in such a deplorable condition that it was necessary to issue a decree for their reconstruction." The Governor approved the accounts, amounting to 280 pesos and seven reales, flattering the respective contributors, and complimented the Noble Cabildo of the Villa for maintaining the Royal Houses in that state of decency and magnificence which was befitting, adding that though much was lacking to reach the state of perfection required, much had been done in spite of recent occurences, to rebuild them on a scale never before seen and which would have been impossible without the efficient support and economic management of the first alcalde, Don

Joseph Antonio Curbelo.

In 1783, a resolution was passed to build a new meeting hall, as the old one in the *Casas Reales* had been destroyed. By 1791 the *Sala Capitular* was again in good condition. Many of the inhabitants refused to accept compensation for their work and materials, as they considered this "a work of public benefit." Those however, who expected pay, encountered great difficulty in collecting the funds due them. The *Ramon Junta* which was held in the Ramon residence, without the consent of the officials, and which had all the ear-marks of a revolutionary movement, was a direct result of these pay-roll irregularities.

UP to 1783 "both men and women had to be imprisoned in the *Cuerpo de Guardia* of the Presidio," but during that year "the Cabildo requested that a *Carcel* (prison) be built on the land remaining for the *Casas Reales,* which would be competent for the separate imprisonment of male and female prisoners."

The Governor immediately approved the request, and by 1791 the said *Carcel* "was 'enjoyed' by those who were so in need of it." It was located south of the *Casas Reales* adjoining the patio or coral, and faced south on the street, which was then called Carcel Street, now Market Street.

At this site the "Break of '40" or the "Court House Fight" took place, Tuesday, Saint Joseph's Day, March 19, 1840, when a band of Comanches came into the settlements, for the third time, pretending to make a treaty of peace and "trying to get ransom money for their American and Mexican captives." As the Indians had not complied with previous contracts, the American Officers proposed to hold four or five of their chiefs, until the promised captives had been brought in. The Comanches on hearing this interpreted, raised a precipitant and terrific war-whoop, drawing their arrows and firing with deadly effect, "at the same time making efforts to break out of the council hall." The Americans in consequence, fired upon the Indians, when all rushed out into the public square, the citizens and soldiers pursuing the Indians in all directions. An interesting story is told of how one brave was

burned out of a nearby house where he had sought refuge and locked himself in.

This site was where the first market house was located (1840), in the back yard of the old Court House, when Carcel Street was called "Market Street." The building in style of a Greek temple was designed by John Fries and David Russi, and built in 1858, by John Campbell. Parts of it now adorn the entrance to the Little Theatre in San Pedro Park, where, curious to observe, the first market place or Indian trading post was held.

In accordance wtih the Law of Incorporation of 1837, the City Council appropriated and sold lots for the purpose of providing a new court house and jail. These were begun in September of 1850, at the northwest corner of Military Plaza, when the old *cuartel* or military quarters were remodelled and added to. This court house became the roosting place for bats and was commonly known as the "Old Bat Cave." It was removed when the present City Hall was nearing completion in about 1890. A third court house designed by Alfred Giles, was constructed in 1882, on the east side of Soledad Street, between Commerce and Houston Streets. The site of a fourth, and the present court house was acquired from the Dwyer-Leal heirs, the first annex to the south being acquired from the Bennet heirs while J. R. Davis was Judge.

THE southeast corner of Main Plaza and Commerce Street, just north of the site of the *Casas Reales,* was granted in 1731, to Maria Robaina de Bethencourt, the widow of Juan Rodriguez Granado, as head of a family. The Granado-Bethencourt home was one of the most distinguished in the province. Built in typical style, with patio and corridors, it was furnished with exquisite heirlooms brought from the Canary Islands, where the Bethencourt boasted descent from the sovereign family. Five paintings were particularly conspicuous there, along with a writing desk inlaid with ivory, a chest decorated with tortoise shell and silver, another of Cordova leather, with screens, and rugs and cushions to match. The dining room was beautifully equipped with ancient silver, and numerous pieces

of china and crystal decorated with gold. The hostess herself was slender and charming, with fair complexion and contrasting brilliant black hair. Her jewels too, were the envy of the neighbors; and even in those early days she had with her, an ivory fan, and cigaret case of burnished gold.

The oldest son, Pedro Granado, occupied the homestead after the death of his mother. Then second Lieutenant Joseph Granado remained there for forty-eight consecutive years, bequeathing the property to his son, Jose Laureano Granado, who in turn, with his mother, sold the homestead to Ramon Muzquiz in 1839. During the subsequent period of revolutionary activities and poltical upheavals, this very desirable corner changed hands quite frequently.

Commerce Street, in Colonial Days, was merely a road leading to the ford, to cross to the Valero Mission. The whole peninsular or loop of the river was, including our Commerce and Market Streets, used for the safe pasturing of the animals and was thus called the *Potrero*. Many of the first settlers soon established their homes in this desirable locality.

THE first grant recorded to Juan Curbelo, in 1736, was on Soledad Street, so-called in the document. One of the oldest private homes in the community, that of the De La Garza, at the site of the present southwest corner of Houston and Soledad Streets, being the only one in the vicinity, gave name to the street, *soledad,* meaning solitude or loneness.

THE original grants on the north side of the Plaza of the Islanders, as Main Plaza was also called, were to the Alvarez Travieso, De Niz and Arocha families. The Travieso and Arocha homes, of stone, were particularly attractive for the time. Their furnishings too, were in taste and ancient period. The Alvarez Travieso house was destroyed by the flood in 1819. That of Simon de Arocha, at the corner of present Main Avenue, was acquired by the Yturri, a good family from Old Spain, and it is said that Santa Anna made his headquarters here when he attacked the Alamo.

THE San Pedro Ditch, commenced in 1738, to furnish water for San Fernando, issuing from the east side of the head waters of the San Pedro Creek, flowed down North Flores Street, and then across, to the plaza, in front of the church. It thus gave name to *Asequia Madre* Street, our present Main Avenue.

The lands south of the church property, facing east on the Main Plaza, were originally granted to Antonio de los Santos and the three Cabrera orphans. In 1747 the latter transferred their interests to Joseph Perez. His descendants remained in the old homestead until recent times, when the house was destroyed by fire; it was rebuilt by Fries and Kampmann in 1852, for Jose Cassiano and his son, Ignacio. It was in this old home, known as the Cassiano Home, that the Mavericks first resided, when arriving in San Antonio in 1838. This property was acquired in 1867 by August Fretelliere and Theodore Gentilz, who in time sold their interests to James P. Hickman. The "Southern Hotel" was a well known center of hospitality in our old city.

JUST south of the site reserved for the public school, opposite the parish church, was the house and lot of Pedro Fuentes, the priest, whose lands extended along the west side of Flores Street, opposite the old Perez home. In 1780 Father Fuentes decided to build a two-story stone house, to be the first of its kind in the community; it was to face east on the Plaza of the Villa. Being foresighted and wise, the good father sought the permission of all the appropriate authorities and interested parties before going ahead with the construction of the second story of his home, such a novel project for the place. He called attention to the fact that all the cities in the world recognized the infinite advantages of such structures, of more than a mere ground floor. Aside from spiritual considerations, a two-story house, he said, would improve the appearance of the Villa, and his particular house would set an example to the other inhabitants to construct similar houses for themselves, all of which would enhance the value of property, and give greater ac-

comodations for families. He called attention to the fact that such buildings, though larger, would not take up any more ground; they would be more healthy, exposed as they were to more fresh air, and better suited for both summer and winter. They would also serve as a better defense for the community, affording protection not only to the inmates, but a high place from which to harry an invading enemy, and being useful as well, as towers of observation, so to spare the Holy Temple that inconvenience.

The Governor and Cabildo were prompt in approving the request, as were the adjoining landlords and other interested inhabitants. The final official approval of our first two-story house is dated October 21, 1780.

THE south side of the Main Plaza was granted to the several members of the Leal family; the Dwyers, as descendants, resided there until very recent date, as has been noted in connection with the building of the present court house.

The street to the east, was originally called *"Calle de los Curbelos"* as Joseph Curbelo received a grant there (to the east) in 1761. The old Curbelo home, known as the *"quinta"* in revolutionary times, when imprisoned women and children were forced to make tortillas for the troops, was acquired by Ralph W. Bowen in 1847; and in this house he had the first American post office. The street took the name *"Quinta"* as did the entire section of the city for a while. Then the Dwyers gave it their name.

THE lot facing west on the Plaza, to the south of the *Casas Reales,* with the street between, was originally granted to Joseph Padron and his wife, as first settlers. They sold in 1745 to Antonio Ximenez, one of the inhabitants of the Villa. Then Joseph Padron and his wife Antonia de Armas acquired the property. In 1819 Francisco Xavier Chavez the Indian expert, who married Juana Padron, was granted the lot, on which he had already established their home.

SETTLERS

1. LEAL — Juan Leal Goraz, b. Lancerote, 1676 son of Antonio and Maria Perez. Married 1st, Lucia (Catarina) Hernandez, b, Lancerote, 1685, daughter of Bartolome and Catalina Rodriguez. Married 2nd, in San Fernando, Maria Melian, widow of Lucas Delgado.

2. CURBELO — Juan Curbelo, b. Lancerote, 1680 son of Domingo and Maria Martin Enrique. Married Gracia Prudhomme y Umpierre, b. Lancerote, 1684, daughter of Marcos and Maria Cabrera.

3. LEAL, Jr. — Juan Leal, *el mozo,* b. Lancerote, 1700, son of Juan, above, and his 1st wife. Married Maria Gracia, b. Teneriffe, 1700, daughter of Pedro Gonzales Cabezas and Francisca de Acosta.

4. SANTOS — Antonio de los Santos, b. Lancerote, 1680 son of Simon and Anna Rodriguez. Married Isabel Rodriguez. b,

Lancerote, 1696, daughter of Domingo de Bega and Leonor Rodriguez. (Note that children frequently used the mother's family name.)

5. PADRON — Joseph Padron, b. Palma, about 1708, married Maria Francisca Sanabria, b. Lancerote, 1710, daughter of Luis and Francisca Lagarda.

6. NIS — Manuel de Niz, b. Grand Canary, about 1680, son of Juan and Andrea Mireles. Married Sebastian de la Peña de Leon, b. 1686, daughter of Domingo and Gregorio Suarez de la Peña.

7. ALVARES TRAVIESO — Vicente Alvarez Travieso, b. Teneriffe, 1705, son of Juan and Catarina Cayetano. Married Maria Ana Curbelo, b. 1712, daughter of Juan and Gracia. Joined the others after their arrival in Mexico.

8. RODRIGUEZ — Salvador Rodriguez, b. Teneriffe, 1688, son of Francisco and Isabel de los Reyes. Married Maria Perez Cabrera, b. Lancerote, about 1688, daughter of Domingo and Maria Perez.

9. AROCHA — Francisco de Arocha, b. Palma, 1703, son of Simon and Angela Francisca. Married Juana Curbelo, b. Lancerote, 1716, daughter of Juan and Gracia. Joined the others after their arrival in Mexico.

10. RODRIGUEZ — Antonio Rodriguez, b. City of Canaries, 1712, son of Juan and Maria de el Carmen. One of the original five single men who were considered in a group as a family. Married Josefa de Niz, only child of Manuel and Sebastiana.

11. LEAL	Joseph Leal, b. Lancerote, 1708 second son of Juan and Lucia Hernandez. Married Ana de los Santos, after the departure from Cuautitlan, b. Lancerote, 1715, daughter of Antonio and Isabel.
12. DELGADO	Juan Delgado, b. Lancerote, 1711, son of Lucas and Marian Melian. Married Catarina Leal, after their departure from Cuautitlan, b. Lancerote, about 1714, daughter of Juan and Catarina Rodriguez.
13. CABRERA	Jose Cabrera, b. Lancerote, 1715, son of Juan and Maria Rodriguez. With his brother Marcos and sister Ana, the head of a family. Their father died on the Veracruz road; their mother, the widow died en route, after their departure from Cuautitlan.
14. GRANADO	Maria Robaina de Bethencourt, widow of Juan Rodriguez Granado, who died in Veracruz.
15. DELGADO	Mariana Melian, widow of Lucas Delgado, who died at Veracruz, b. Lancerote, about 1700, daughter of Francisco and Ines de Hoyos.
16. Group: the two Armas and the two Perez	Ignacio and Martin Lorenzo de Armas, b. Canary Islands, 1706 and 1710, resp. sons of Roque and Teresa de Aviles. Ignacio married Ana Cabrera, daughter of Juan and Maria Rodriguez. Martin married the widow, Maria Robaina de Bethencourt Rodriguez Granado. Phelipe and Joseph Antonio Peres (Casanova), sons of Domingo and Maria Granado. Apparently Phelipe did not marry. Joseph Antonio married 1st, Paula Granado, daughter of Juan and Maria Robaina de Bethencourt, and 2nd, Gertrudis de la Zerda.

JUAN LEAL GORAZ was appointed head of the colonists by a colonial judge previous to the departure from the Canary Islands. He was re-appointed by the Viceroy in Mexico. As he was the oldest man among the colonists, he was chosen by them, as their Senior Alderman, for life.

A grandson of Juan, *El Mozo,* married Maria Luisa de Urrutia, and their granddaughter Francisca married Jose Olivarri (brother of Placido, the ancestor of the pesent Olivarri); their daughter Paula married Anton Frederick Wulff. Many descendants of Pedro, son of Juan, *El Mozo,* who was born during the voyage, at Havana, flourished in San Antonio to the end of the 18th century.

Joseph Leal, the second son of Juan Leal Goraz, was the great-grandfather of Remigio, the father of Juan Agustin, ancestor of the present Leal in San Antonio, including the descendants of the Garcia Villareal; and Mariana Leal, who married first a Ramon and second a Dwyer. (Mrs. John L. Bullis and Mrs. George Schmidt are descendants of the latter.)

JUAN CURBELO and his wife Gracia Prudhomme y Umpierre had five children, The oldest, Joseph, born in Lancerote in 1705, married Rafaela de la Garza. Mariana married Vicente Alvarez Travieso. Juana married Francisco de Arocha. Maria born in Lancerote in 1717, married first, Joseph Bueno de Rojas; and second, Christoval de los Santos Coy, the pioneer schoolmaster. She was the last survivor of the original Canary Island settlers, and was popularly known as *"Tia Canaria."*

Lieutenant Joseph Antonio Rafael Curbelo, (born in 1746, and killed by the Lipans in about 1789) was the son of Joseph and Rafaela. He married in 1766, Rita Flores. Their third child, Juan Joseph Vicente, born in 1771, married Teresa, the daughter of Vicente Amador and Manuela Banul, and their son Jose Antonio Saturnino, born in 1791, married Josefa Delgado in 1811. Their daughter Maria de Jesus, born in 1813, married John W. Smith, and their oldest son Santiago Mateo was the

father of Roberta, who married John Hunt; Josefa Agusta married Captain William Giraud Tobin of Irish Stock of Barnwell County, South Carolina; their descendants have all been well known and active members of our community: Mrs. Zeliene Frazer; Annie Burrough; Mary Ellen Vance (mother of Mrs. Spencer); Agnes Bell (mother of Mrs. Marshall Terrell, Mrs. Mathis, Mrs. Sam Newton and Mrs. Albert Steves, Jr); Ella Bell Carr (mother of Mrs. Colvert, Mrs. Schreiner and Mrs. Armstrong), William G. Tobin, father of Edgar; John Tobin; Josephine Rote (mother of William, Jr., Tobin, John Girard and Cynthia); Charles Milton Tobin, who represents his generation today, father of Mrs. Schaefer, and Mrs. Day; and Lucy Thornton, mother of Woodford and William.

Lucinda, third child of Maria de Curbelo and John W. Smith, married Henry Newton, son of Sam, of Arkansas, and they were the parents of Sam, John, Mrs. Herndon and Lucy Josephine.

Susan, fourth child, married John Campbell, and they were the parents of Mattie Boyd, and Mrs. Anton Bennett, whose seven children are well known in San Antonio.

THE SANTOS family from the Canary Islands and the De Los Santos Coy, of the early military families, are not at all the same, and one must be very careful to distinguish between them. Miguel, son of the original settlers, married a Galvan, and their son George Antonio, had a daughter who married Ponciano Muñoz. They had nine children who were identified in San Antonio into the early 19th century. Catarina de los Santos, daughter of the original settlers, married Francisco Delgado. Her sister, Josefa, married Juan Galvan, son of the well known Commander and his wife, Francisca Xaviera Maldonado.

JUANA FRANCISCA PADRON was the daughter of Juan Joseph Padron and a granddaughter of the original Joseph. Her mother was the daughter of Martin Lorenzo de Armas and Maria Robaina de

Bethencourt. Juana Padron married the already mentioned, Francisco Xavier Chavez. Their daughter married a first cousin of Antonio Menchaca, who so befriended the Texian cause; and their daughter, Maria Josefa, and Jose Antonio de la Garza, were the parents of seven children, whose descendants, the Trueheart, De Witt, Yturri, Crawford and De La Garza, are all respected citizens of San Antonio today. Jose Ignacio Chavez, son of Francisco Xavier, married a Montes de Oca, and from them are descended the Chavez of our present city, including the descendants of Juana, whom it is said, was the wife of Antonio Navarro, and Tomasa, who married Mariano Garcia.

THE CASANOVA family were well known in Spain during the 13th century, when Don Jaime I of Aragon conquered Valencia.

The oldest son of Jose Perez (Casanova) and his wife Paula Granado, was Domingo, first *Cabo* in the Presidio of San Antonio in 1779. He married Maria Concepcion de Carvajal, and their son Ignacio was the third of thirteen children. According to the De La Garza Notes, Antonio Perez, who married Josefa Falcon, was a descendant of Domingo Perez. Antonio and Josefa were the parents of Antonio R. Perez, who married in 1879, Tomasa Teresa Cassiano. They were the parents of ten children, of whom Ester married G. C. de Carvajal, and Bertha married A. R. Marmion.

The sixth child of Jose Perez and Paula Granado was Juan Ignacio (b. 1756 d. 1823), the well known "Colonel Perez" who married Clemencia Hernandez. Their daughter Gertrudis, born in 1790, married 1st, 1806, Governor Antonio Cordero, and 2nd, 1828, Jose Cassiano.

Jose Ignacio Perez, son of Colonel Perez, b. 1786, married, 1812, Maria Josefa Cortinas. Their daughter Josefa married (1855) Jacob Linn. Their daughter Concepcion Linn married Frank T. Walsh, while another daughter married Santiago Herrera, whose son Jacob, adopted by his maternal grandmother, according to family tradition, married Eve-

lyn Heermann, who as a widow, married Bryan Mauermann.

Ignacio Perez, and Ignacio the Younger, were brothers of Josefa Linn. One married Madelina Menchaca by whom he had seven children.

Jose Cassiano (Guiseppe Cassini, native of San Remo, of the Republic of Genoa) came to America with a British passport dated 1816, which described him as an "inhabitant of Gibraltar." He took for his second wife, Gertrudis Perez, widow of the Governor, above mentioned. Their son, Jose Ignacio, married, 1847, Margarita Rodriguez, daughter of Rufino and Dolores Ruiz. Their daughter Gertrudis was the wife of Charles P. Smith, an ordinance officer in the U. S. A., of Philadelphia. Their descendants are prominent in San Antonio today.

Jose Cassiano married 3rd, in 1833, Margarita Valdes, daughter of Jose and Maria Juana Gonzales. Their son Jose Fermin Cassiano married Tomasa Flores Valdes, daughter of Nicholas Flores and Teresa Valdes; their daughter Teresa married Antonio Perez, mentioned above. Adelaida, daughter of Geronimo Cassiano, brother of Teresa, married M. M. Campbell. Teresa Valdes, wife of Nicholas Flores, was the daughter of Tomas and Josefa Amondarain. Josefa Amondarain was the daughter of Juan Martin and Josefa Granado. Nicholas Flores was the son of Gaspar, and grandson of Vicente, the son of Francisco Flores and Francisca Travieso.

JOSEFA, the only child of Manuel de Niz, married the oldest son of the widow, Maria Rodriguez Cabrera. The De Niz family is thus represented by the Rodriguez descendants.

THOMAS, the oldest son of nine children of Vicente Alvarez Travieso and Maria Ana Curbelo, was the father of Vicente, who married twice and had a large family. A son Jose had children residing in San Antonio after the middle of the 19th century.

SIMON, the oldest of fifteen children of Francisco de Arocha, and his wife Juana Curbelo, was an army officer. He married a daughter of Joaquin de Urrutia. They had eight children. Miguel, the third, was the grandfather of Lino, who married Encarnacion de Urrutia, and whose descendants are well known among the old families of San Antonio.

ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ and Josefa de Niz were the parents of Prudencio, who married Polonia Curbelo. Manuel Ignacio, one of the twelve children of the latter, married Antonia Courbiere, and their son Ambrocio was the father of Judge Jose Maria Rodriguez, author of the *Memoirs*.

JUAN DELGADO, oldest son of the widow, married a Leal. They had six children. Jacinto, the third, was the father of Clemente, whose daughter Josefa, married Jose Curbelo. Amador, the sixth, had a very large family. A son Jose was the father of another Amado, the well known trail driver. He also left many descendants. There were twelve children born to the marriage of Francisco Delgado, second son of the widow, and his wife, Catarina de los Santos. The later descendants of the Delgado are connected with the Travieso and Saucedo. There are many intermarriages with the Tarin and Seguin.

The orphan, Ana Cabrera, married Ignacio de Armas.

THE GRANADO descendants were identified with their distinguished old home on the plaza. A daughter of Juan de Acuña, named for the Viceroy, married into the Gortari family, and they had many descendants.

THE IGNACIO DE ARMAS, whose town grant was north of the parish church, between the two plazas, had seven children. One of their daughters married Francisco Casanova (Perez), son of Joseph and Paula Granado. Martin de Armas married the widow, Maria Robaina de Bethencourt. They had four children, of whom, Antonia married Joseph Padron.

Illustrations by Eleanor Onderdonk

1. Frontispiece. Saint Ferdinand, from the statue on the altar of the San Fernando Cathedral.

   Fernando III, El Santo (1199-1252), was the son of Alphonso IX of Leon, and of Berengaria, daughter of Alphonso VIII. of Castile. Through the cleverness of his mother he wore the crown of Castile. As Alphonso of Leon considered himself tricked the young king had to begin his reign by a war against his father and a faction of the Castilian nobles. Ever showing himself docile to the influence of his mother, Ferdinand married the wife she chose for him. Beatrice, daughter of Philip, the Hohebstaufen emperor. After the union of Castile and Leon (1231) he began the reduction of the Mahommedan dominions in Spain. Finally the king of Granada did homage to him. "The king was a severe persecutor of the Albigenes, and his formal canonization was due as much to his orthodoxy as to his crusading by Pope Clement X. in 1671."

2. Contour from the "Plan of the town of San Antonio—1730" by Joseph de Villaseñor. Original in Mexico City. This was the proposed plan for the Villa of San Fernando which was to be laid out, in accordance with the Royal laws of the Indies. The Plaza was to be six hundred varas long by four hundred varas wide. "C" marks the Casas Reales or Cabildo; "D", the Customs House or Public Granary (Alhondiga). Portales or arcades were to run along the east side of the Plaza, extending slightly, at right angles, along the north and south.

3. San Fernando Church, as it originally appeared, from the Rodriguez Memoirs.

4. The Cabildo, showing the old whipping post, from the Rodriguez Memoirs.

5. North Side of Main Plaza, from the painting in oil by W. G. M. Samuels, 1849.

6. The full page illustration of San Fernando Church is from a sketch by Robert Onderdonk, father of the artist, Miss Onderdonk.

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